



Central Whidbey Island Fire & Rescue

1164 Race Road
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Professionalism • Integrity • Compassion • Excellence

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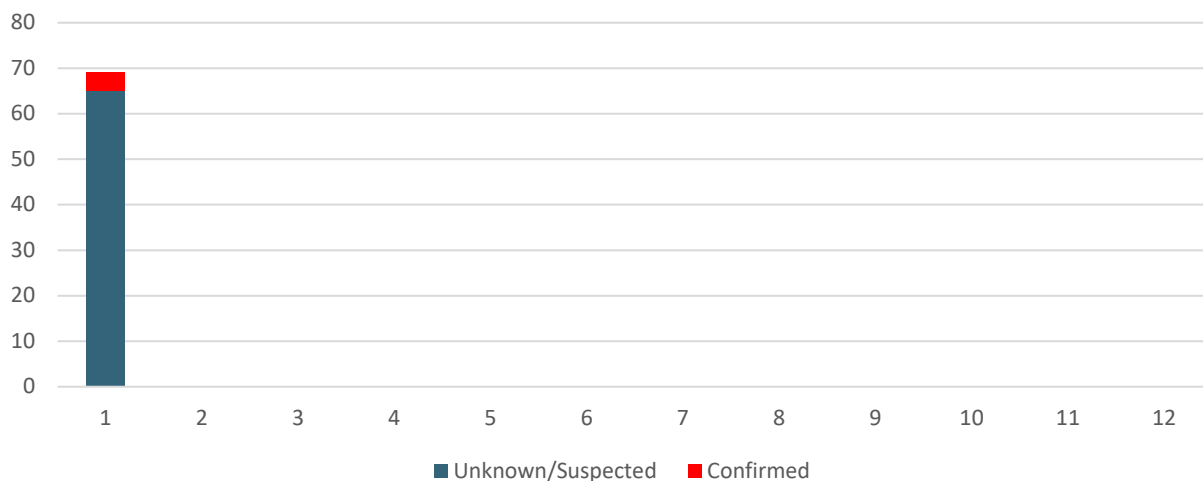
www.cwfire.org

To: Board of Fire Commissioners
From: Fire Chief Jerry Helm
Date: February 8th, 2024
Subject: Chief's Report

COVID-19

As illustrated below, COVID-19 continues to impact on incident operations, but the frequency with which our members encounter it continue to fluctuate through the year. During the month of **January**, there were **65 incidents where COVID-19 was unknown/suspected and 4 with COVID-19 confirmed.**

2024 Responses Where COVID was a Factor



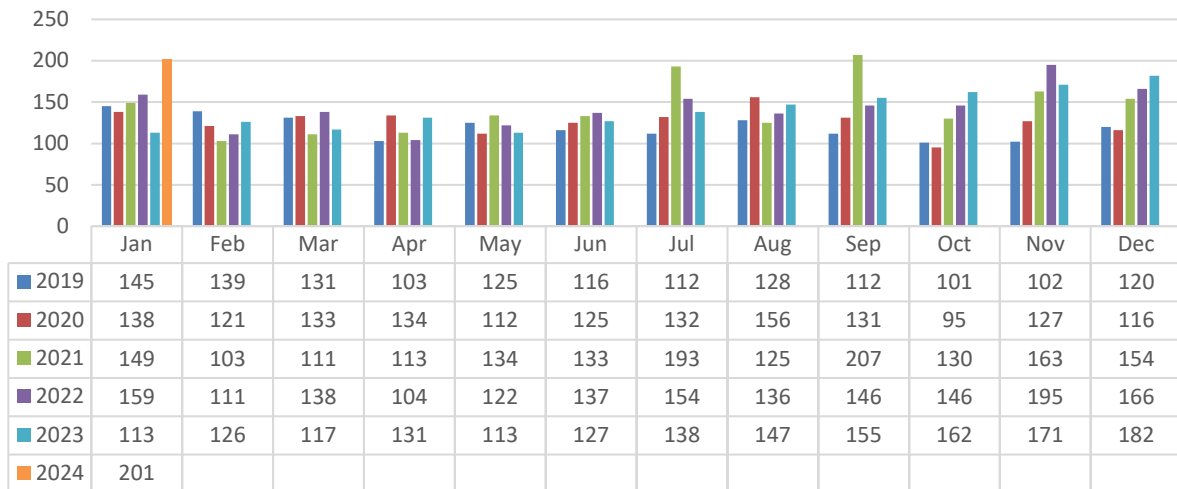
Operational Activity

During the previous month, the district received **201 emergency calls. This is the second time in 5 years we have responded to over 200 calls in a month.** This month particular, concurrent calls severely impacted response times. The district had **82 concurrent incidents, impacting 40% of total incidences.** We are addressing staffing starting this month by holding the first full time testing process to fill the positions approved by the voters in the November 2023 levy.

Frequency By Incident Type

Incident type	Frequency
1 - Fire	2
2 - Overpressure Rupture, Explosion, Overheat (No Fire)	0
3 - Rescue & Emergency Medical Service Incident	114
4 - Hazardous Condition (No Fire)	4
5 - Service Call	36
6 - Good Intent Call	33
7 - False Alarm & False Call	12
8 - Severe Weather & Natural Disaster	0
9 - Special Incident Type	0
Total	201

2024 Incident Frequency by Month



Station 53 Construction Project

Construction is scheduled to be completed in the next few weeks and the end is getting closer.

Landscaping and sprinkler system installation is nearing completion and final punch list on the building is being completed.

County Inspections are being signed off with just a few remaining. We hope to have all inspections done and the final inspection completed within a week or two allowing us to finalize moving in and transitioning the duty crew to the new station.

Other Administrative work

Chief Helm attended multiple onsite construction meetings for station 53. Chief Helm attended the Island County Fire Chiefs, EMS council, and ICOM Fire Tac meetings.

Chief Helm is continuing to work with the state department of commerce on obtaining our \$2.7 million dollar grant.

Training & Development

Administrative

Began writing the Vulnerability Assessment Program (VAP) and Safety Improvement Plan (SIP) as the first steps for participation in the Washington State Labor & Industries "Firefighter Injury & Illness Reduction" (FIIRE) Program. Continued moving supplies and equipment into Station 53. Continued planning for the dedication ceremony for the grand opening event planned for March 9th. Continued working with South Whidbey Fire & EMS and ICSO for the ongoing investigation of the alleged physical and sexual harassment complaint between two volunteer EMT recruits.

Recruitment

Developed PowerPoint and presented volunteer orientation session at Station 54 on January 13th for four recruits. Interviewed one volunteer recruit after the orientation.

In-Service Training

Conducted "hands-on" drill sessions on SCBA donning, operation of the Lucas CPR device, and a live fire training drill on vehicle fires for career and volunteer personnel. Participated in the After-Action Review by Chief Meek on the two-alarm barn fire on January 31th.

Collaboration

Met with Sgt Chris Garden on January 23rd. on the ongoing plan-development of the active-shooter MCI drill at the Coupeville High School this Spring. Attended First Responder stress recognition and Peer Support training class with ICOM and Oak Harbor Fire Department on January 24th. Took an online class on disaster response preparedness taught by FEMA with Island County Emergency Manager Eric Brooks on January 9th.

Other

Responded to fourteen (14) 911 calls as either Chief 504 or Chief 500. Acted as the Water Supply Officer at the two-alarm barn fire on January 4th.

Operations

Special OPS

FF Kellison has been hard at work acquiring the remaining equipment for training on Marine 5.

PPE/Respiratory Protection

FF Lloyd issued a few sets of turnouts to new volunteers.

Radios/Pagers

LT Huff received base stations for the new pagers and set them up at the stations.

Medical Supplies and CPR

New pulse ox ordered for A503 medical bag. AIC Lt. Majestic taught a CPR class on 1/17/2024.

Reports

There were 203 call/reports for emergency services in the month of January.

Other

Lt. Huff ordered new water valve kit for E-53.

As stated previously, crews responded to 201 calls for service. Of those calls, the fire at Quail Trail and an MVC near OLF storage stand out. Our crews at the fire performed well and worked a long time to extinguish a hidden fire. A special thank you to SWFE and OHFD for their assistance on the fire. In particular, we wanted to recognize Lt. Ed Klaczky. The fire was toned out as a commercial fire, so L81 was automatic aided to the fire. Lt. Klaczky, knowing the area, brought an engine instead of L81 because he knew this wasn't a commercial fire and it also kept L81 in service...and they still came knowing that it wasn't commercial. Their four personnel allowed us to make entry and begin an interior fire attack.

An AAR was held last Tuesday with volunteers and career members that responded to the fire. Had a great turnout from our volunteers and a large portion of our personnel that were at the fire attended the event.

In a second incident, crews responded to a single vehicle rollover collision near OLF Storage. 500 arrived and assigned the units to extricate the patient because they were trapped in the truck, vehicle was laying on its driver side. C-shift (Lloyd, Huff, Dotson) and FF Kellison did a great job removing the roof from the vehicle and stabilizing the patient. One of the best extrications that I have seen since I've been here; timely, safely, and with skilled execution. Just wanted to say well done.

Facilities

Station 51

Station 51 hose bib was rebuilt to fix a leak

Station 52

Station 53

PPE racks were installed at Station 53 by Tiger Construction

Amplified pager chargers were ordered for Station 53

Extractor was delivered and installed at Station 53

Station Move- Crews and many volunteers have assisted in moving the agency to Station 53. We are 90% of the way there, a special thank you to the crews, Jake Keating, Bob Moore, Travis Dotson, Brent Stevens, Ken Lindenstein and several others for a tremendous amount of support during the moving process. Many volunteers spent days assembling and moving equipment.

Station 54

New insulation and heat tape was placed on the large water pipes to our pumps at Station 54 to prevent freezing.

Community Risk Reduction

Monthly Inspection Progress

A shift completed 8 total inspections, 4 A shift, 4 b shift. Monthly total 4/5 January inspections

B shift: 6/9 January inspections

C shift: 4/4 January inspections

A few more inspections were also completed by crews after the report from the CRR division.

Yearly Inspection Progress

A shift completed 80% YTD

B shift completed 66% YTD

C shift completed 100% YTD

Home Safety Survey/Installations

8 address signs were installed

CRR Programs and other inspection activity

Fire investigation 1/7/24 – 3 hours at scene, 5 hours photo organizing and report work

FF Burnett conducted multiple volunteer phone calls

FF Burnett conducted 3 volunteer interviews and 4 informational meetings

Changed batteries in 4 smoke and CO alarms at Gainsborough in Coupeville

Changed batteries in 2 hardwired smoke alarms at Olympic View mobile

Fleet Maintenance

Repair and Maintenance

Unit 2303 (501) – Received 60k P.M. service and emergency light programming.

Unit's 2001 and 2002 (B-53, B-54) – Programmed officer's side alley light to match drivers side.

Other Fleet Maintenance Activity

All new vehicles and the new boat have had CWIFR's graphics completed.